**GRANT PROPOSAL**

**Letter of Inquiry, or Cover Letter.**

**Grant title: From Failure to Promise k-12 Educators’ Grant**

**URL (Grant): http://www.fromfailuretopromise.com/educators**

**School District: Wyoming County Schools**

**School: Berlin McKinney Elementary School**

**Superintendent: Mrs. Diedre Cline**

**Mailing Address: HC 65 Box 402 Oceana, WV 24870**

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**Phone number: (304)682-6481**

**Partner: n/a**

**Description of Purpose**

The purpose of this grant project is to allow my students to read books and explore texts they otherwise would not have access to. The grant supports projects specifically for literacy, math, and technology for public or private school teachers to enhance the learning of their students. The project would allow my students to use ereaders and ebooks within our classroom library. Having a set of ereaders would provide the school with a new stage for technology in the classroom. My home school values technology integration.

**Needs Assessment**

Our students are currently taking the General Summative State Assessment test which happens to be all online. With limited technological resources, it hard for us to prepare our students for this online test. Access to various types of text would better prepare our students for the types of text that appear on the state test. More technology integration into the classroom will allow the students to feel more comfortable with the assessments. Our schools do already use one mobile lab shared by the entire staff (pre-k through 4th grade) and two carts of mini iPads also shared. Most classrooms have outdated desktops that do not often support our need for classroom integration. These ereaders and access to ebooks would allow students and teachers alike learn more about technology and open up a whole new world in literacy instruction.

**Demographics**

Our school currently services students in grade levels pre-kindergarten through 4th grade. Each grade level has three classes, except second grade. We have approximately 40 faculty and staff members that include teachers, custodians, cooks, classroom aides, counselors, nurses, a secretary and principal. We have roughly 400 students that could benefit from the use of ereaders in the classroom. Our school library would also benefit from such technology to expand the types of books the students can check out and enjoy.

**Technology**

At our school, every classroom has at least two desktop computers. We have a mobile lab with 30 laptops and one printer. We have two classroom labs, one of which is occupied by our technology teacher all day. We also have two carts of mini iPads, each cart has 30 tablets with it and a charging station. We currently have no ereaders or access to ebooks. This technology would not only enhance the classroom experience for the students, but also change the way in which our students can access books from the school library.

**Solution Rationale**

Our plan would be to use this grant to help purchase at least 6 Kindle Ereaders to begin the school’s set of 30. These ereaders would be able to be checked out and used in classrooms, libraries in the school, and for at home use with proper paperwork on file. Each year, if the grant was to continue, we could purchase more ereaders and grow to our goal of a school set of 30.

**Roles**

The roles of each person involved would vary based on need of the ereaders. Our principal would be responsible for keeping the ereaders check in and check out log. Our technology teacher and librarian would keep the ereaders updated and would download books and selections for the students—also take requests for specific genres, books, and types of literature from students and teachers. The teachers’ role would vary based on grade level and purpose of the use of the ereaders. They could check them out to use them for class read alouds, use by the students for lessons and activities, and use for the students for the pleasure of reading. The students’ roles would be to properly use the ereaders for school. They would maintain the requirements in the acceptable use policy of the school for technology.

**Timeline**

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| **Purchase** | **Trainings (teachers, staff, parents, students)** | **Trial** | **Total implementation** |
| * Shortly after the award of the grant * Ordering online, with prime shipping—should be received by the school within 2 weeks of ordering. | * Teachers: days after ereaders are received, updated, charged, and downloaded books are avalible. * Voluteers/other staff members: a week after teachers—training ran by teachers. * Parents: at a parent night ran by Title 1 Staff, grade level teachers, and administration * Students: within the month of the arrival of the ereaders following all of the above trainings. | Following all trainings, a teacher from each grade level would use an ereader within their ELA time. They would allow students to read on them, explore the tools, and browse the online library at their disposal. | Within the first two months of the arrival of the first set of ereaders, the faculty, staff, students, and parents would be able to enjoy the total implementation of this technology. |

**Outcomes**

With this new exposure to types of technology, the students would be opened up to a whole new level of literacy engagement. They could read books we would regularly not have access to. The students will find a new motivation to read beyond the classroom requirements, and be motivated to read outside of the regular school environment. More reading would improve state testing scores, diagnostic testing results, and the general well-being of the student body as whole.

**Evaluation**

Once the full implementation takes place, surveys will be distributed to see how this program is working and ways to expand it in the future.

**Sustainability**

The ereader station will be kept locked with our other mobile technology carts in a room also guarded by our security system. When a teacher, student, or parent would want to check on out, they will have to sign in and list the number of which they are taking. When returning the ereader(s), the person will have to sign them back in and return them to their respective places in the storage room. Updating the software will be done regularly, and charging the ereaders will take place appropriately.

**Budget Narrative**

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| **Item** | **Cost per item** | **Number of Items** | **Total** |
| **Kindle 6” Ereaders Black** | **$79.99** | **6** | **$479.94** |

**Statement of Assurances**

To assure this grant project will take place properly and on time, our Local School Improvement Council will oversee the project. The LSIC has the following members on it: the principal, general ed. and resource teachers, school bus drivers, parents, and a member of our County Board of Education.